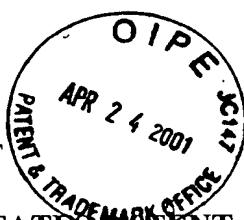


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : #6
M.J.
4/26/01

Hiroshi MATSUI, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO.: 09/462,472 : 4/26/01

FILED: January 14, 2000 : EXAMINER: C. FRONDA

FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PURINE NUCLEOSIDES VIA FERMENTATION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated March 28, 2001, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group VI, Claim 13, for further prosecution. In addition, Applicants elect, with traverse, phosphoglucose isomerase as single disclosed species, for further prosecution. Claims 1, 9 and 10 read on the elected species.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claim 2, drawn to a microorganism which has acquired a purine nucleoside-producing ability because of an increase of an activity of an enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis;

Group II: Claim 3, drawn to a microorganism which has acquired a purine nucleoside-producing ability because of an increase in the expression of a gene for an enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis;

Group III: Claims 4, 5 and 8, drawn to a microorganism which has acquired a purine nucleoside-producing ability because of blockage of deregulation of control of an enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis;